# His Majesties
MOST GRACIOUS
# SPEECH
To Both Houses of
# PARLIAMENT,
WITH THE
# LORD KEEPERS.
On *Tuesday* October 19. 1669.

By his Majesties Command.

In the SAVOY,
Printed by the Assigns of *John Bill* and *Christopher Barker*, Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1669.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

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*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

I Am very glad to see you here at this time, and I hope this will be a happy meeting, for I have had great Experience of your Affection and Loy- to Me, and am very confident of continuance of it. It is now al-

most a Year and a half since Your last sitting; and though my Debts have prest Me very much, yet I was unwilling to call for Your Assistance till this time: what You gave Me last was wholly applied to the Navy, and that Extraordinary Fleet for which it was intended. I desire that you will now take my Debts effectually into your Considerations. Some thing I have to Propose to You of great Importance concerning the uniting of *England* and *Scotland*, but it will require some length, and I have left that and some other things to My Lord Keeper, to open them more fully to You.

## *The Lord Keeper's Speech.*

*My Lords, and you Knights, Citizens and Burgeſſes of the Houſe of Commons,*

HIs Majeſty in His moſt gracious Speech hath expreſſed His great ſatisfaction in ſeeing you here at this time, and His hopes of a happy iſſue of this Meeting; To obtain this, nothing can conduce more then a good Correſpondency and Union among your ſelves.

He hath reaſon to believe that you all come with the ſame common Affections for the general good, and therefore perſwades himſelf, there will be no differences between the Two Houſes; but if there ſhould be any ſuch, He earneſtly recommends it to You, that by Your Moderation and Wiſdoms ſuch Expedients may be found out as may Compoſe them, and that thereby no delay or obſtruction be to Your other Proceedings.

His Majeſty hath alſo deſired You to take His Debts effectually into conſideration. I need not mention to You the uneaſineſs of His condition with that Burthen, nor the Inconveniencies

or Miſchiefs which might fall out, if he ſhould continue under it.

It is not unknown to You, That His Majeſty hath been a happy Inſtrument by the Treaty at *Aix*, and by the Triple Alliance, to procure Peace between the two neighbouring Crowns; The ſecuring of that Peace (wherein our own Peace is concerned) and His Majeſties Reputation abroad, will alſo much depend upon Your Kindneſs to Him: And therefore He hopes that You will conſider of how great an Importance it is at this time, that His Majeſty be enabled to bear ſuch a part in the Affairs of *Europe*, as may Contribute moſt to His own Honour, and the Safety, Benefit and Glory of this Nation.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

You may remember that upon His Majeſties Recommendation, an Act was lately made for Setling Freedom, and Intercourſe of Trade between *England* and *Scotland*, which was occaſioned upon Complaints of new Duties Impoſed in each Kingdom upon divers Commodities of the Growth, Production or Manufacture of the other.

According to this Act, Comiſſioners were appointed by His Majeſty for

both Kingdoms to Treat upon that Affair, and they had ſeveral meetings, which produced no effect unleſs it were a conviction of the difficulty, if not impoſſibility of Setling it in any other way then by a nearer and more compleat Union of the two Kingdoms.

His Majeſty is fully perſwaded, that no thing can tend more to the good and ſecurity of both Nations, then ſuch an Union; And finds that His Royal Grandfather King *James* of bleſſed memory, went ſo far on towards this good work, that by Act of Parliament in the Firſt year of His Reign, Commiſſioners were authorized to Treat and Conſult with Commiſſioners from *Scotland* concerning it.

And in purſuance of their Treating in the fourth year of His Reign, an Act was made for the Repeal of Hoſtile Laws, and the abolition of the memory of Hoſtility between the two Nations; and after the end of that Seſſion, about the ſeventh year of His Reign it was (by the Judges of all the Courts at *Weſtminſter-Hall*) ſolemnly adjudged in the Caſe of the *Poſt Nati*, That thoſe who (after the diſcent of the Crown to King *James*) were born in *Scotland*, were no Aliens in *England*; and conſequently were capable

not

not only of Lands, but all other Immunities as if they had been born here. By these steps so great an advance hath been made towards this Union, that His Majesty well hopes that what is yet wanting to the perfecting it, may be now accomplished: The continuance under the same Obedience and Subjection for near Threescore and seven years, having begotten the same common Friends, and common Enemies to both Nations, and taken off a great part of those difficulties which at the first stood in the way. And therefore His Majesty doth most heartily recommend it unto you, That Commissioners may be nominated to Treat and Consult with Commissioners from *Scotland* concerning this Union. His Majesty hath given Directions to the Earl of *Lauderdale* His Commissioner for *Scotland*, to make the like Proposal to the Parliament which is now sitting there; and doubts not but upon the meeting of such Commissioners of both Kingdoms, those things will be offered to your considerations in order to the Union, as shall tend to the Honour of His Majesty, and the common good of all His Subjects.

And this is all I have in Command to say at this time.

FINIS.